

the CHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER

April 1996

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NEWSLETTER
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Ted M. Darden

SPECIAL
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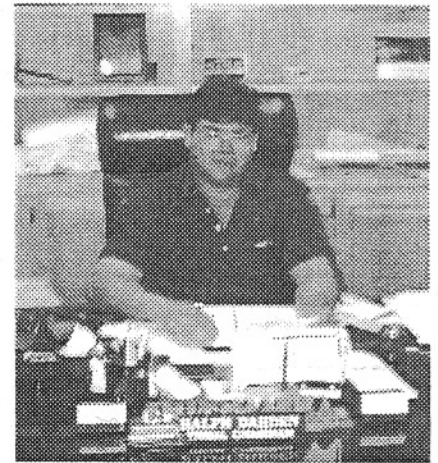
"SOVEREIGN NATION OF THE CHITIMACHA"

Editor's Note: Starting in this month's edition of **theCHITIMACHA NEWSLETTER**, I am pleased to announce that we now have the capability of publishing the **NEWSLETTER** with accompanying photographs. In future editions, we will be high-lighting special events and activities which will be of interest to our readers. *Thank you!*

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Dear Tribal Members:

On March 9, an elderly and veterans festival was held at the Chitimacha School Gym. On that day, we honored our elders and our veterans for their contributions to the Tribe for keeping us in existence today and the contributions and sacrifices to the United States in defending it from foreign enemies. Gifts were presented along with a meal and lots of music and dancing. I would like to thank our youth who danced, the Rosehill singers from Oklahoma and the Little Hawk singers from Coushatta for their participation to make this event special. Everyone seemed to enjoy the occasion.



Chairman Ralph C. Darden

CURFEW ORDINANCE

Last week, the Tribal Council, as well as other staff from the judicial system, spent two days with Reid Chambers (Tribal Attorney) reviewing and updating ordinances as well as policies. A new ordinance is being drafted in reference to a curfew on the Reservation. The curfew will pertain to Indians and to non-Indians alike and will be set for 10:00 PM. Also included in this ordinance is a provision for children who skip school and are caught on the streets during school hours. We expect to have a draft back in about two weeks and, once approved, it will be posted for general comment.

CASINO NEWS

On March 10, an Employee of the Year gala was held at the Bayou Oaks in New Iberia. A nice party was held recognizing employees for their Outstanding Performance in the past year. My congratulations goes out to Whitney Vilcan who was selected as an Employee of the Year. As suprised as he was upon being selected as Employee of the Year, he did get up and give a wonderful speech.

(See CHAIRMAN, Page 10)

"Kop's Korner"



News from the Chitimacha P. D. By: Ellen Hebert

Our sympathy to Officer Steve Gentry and his family on the passing of his mother, Mrs. Virtie Gentry, in Aberdeen, MS. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Congratulations to Dispatcher Angie Freeman on the birth of her beautiful daughter, Katelin, who arrived on March 1, 1996 at 3:58 PM, weighing 7 lbs. 12 ozs. and 21" in length. Mother and baby are doing well!

We would like to welcome Cassandra Butaud who will be our temporary dispatcher while Angie is on maternity leave. Cassandra came to us through the Inter-Tribal Council of Louisiana JTPA Job Placement Program. She received two weeks of training at the police department and is now dispatching on her own and continuing to work very well. Welcome aboard Sandy!

Birthday greetings to dispatcher Debbie Vilcan from everyone at the police department. Debbie celebrated her birthday on March 28. Happy Birthday!

To date, for the month of March 1996, the department issued one traffic citation for speeding and made one arrest on the charges of disturbing the peace and resisting an officer. Three other subjects were arrested, on different date, after checks with other local agencies revealed that they had outstanding warrants on them. The subjects were booked at the police department and turned over to the appropriate agency.

TRAINING! TRAINING!

Officer Assistant Ellen Hebert and Reserve Officer Johnny Burgess are now in the seventh week of basic training at the St. Mary Parish Sheriff's Office. They are studying hard and aiming for the highest goals!

Officer Blaise Smith attended a six-day program from February 26, 1996 to March 2, 1996 in Tallahassee, Florida, to become a certified examiner to conduct truth verification examinations. The Certified Examiners Course was a very intense training course of study with nightly homework assignments being a mandatory part of the curriculum. Officer Smith now joins just a few others in the state of Louisiana who are certified to conduct this type of examination.

Dispatchers Rosie Bertrand and Debbie Vilcan on March 11,

1996, attended a one day seminar, in Lafayette, La. on Information Gathering, Dispatch Techniques and Telephone Courtesy.

Chief Frank McCloskey attended a Child Protection Team seminar in Reno, NV from March 12, to March 15, 1996.

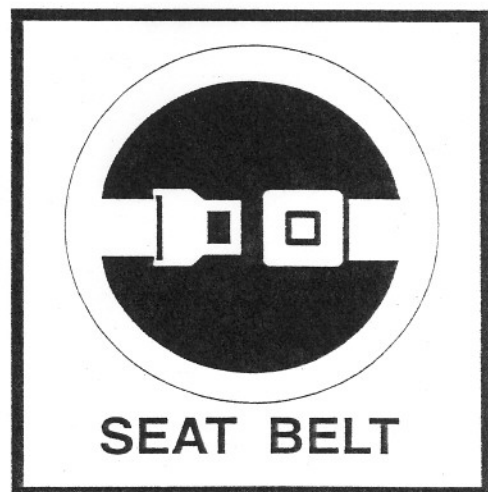
Officer Clayton Arnold attended a Street Survival seminar in New Orleans, La. from March 22, to March 24, 1996.

There are more seminars and classes scheduled for both dispatchers and officers throughout the month of April, 1996.

ATTENTION JUNIOR POLICE

There will be a meeting at the Police Department on Saturday, April 13, 1996 from 10 AM to 12 Noon. We will be making plans for an event called "Keep America Clean." Please attend and bring a friend!

That's it for this month. Until next time, remember to buckle up and drive safely!



Health Department News

Personal Insurance

Clients with personal insurance must keep the Health Department informed of changes in insurance coverage. Remember to bring your insurance explanation of benefits to the CMC office. We need a copy to determine the balance owed on your medical bills. Also please provide information to your doctor, hospital, dentist, etc. as to where to file your insurance.

Medical Bills/Statements

Some medical bills are not sent to the Health Department by the provider. They are billed directly to your residence. It is your responsibility to bring those bills to the Health Department. For example, when you have an x-ray done at the hospital, you will receive another bill for the radiology fees. You must bring those in as soon as you receive them.

Medicaid Clients

The Health Department requires a copy of your Medicaid card each month. Bring in any correspondence you receive from the Office of Family Support concerning your Medicaid case. Because Medicaid is an alternate resource, please remember that you must use doctors who will accept the Medicaid card. If you have a problem with finding a doctor who accepts the card, please call our office for assistance.

Insurance Claims

The Health Dept. will be filing claims to your insurance company for pharmacy charges on a quarterly basis. Please bring any checks and correspondence from your insurance company to the CMC Office. The checks are a reimbursement to the Health Program for charges previously paid by the program and will be put back into the program.

REMINDER

There is a clinic every Wednesday morning at the Health Dept. starting at 7:30 to check blood pressure, blood sugar and weight. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Can Easter Eggs Be Hazardous to Your Health?

It will soon be time for egg coloring, egg rolls on the White House lawn and egg hunts everywhere. All that egg handling at Easter time provides ample opportunity for eggs to become contaminated with bacteria. Here are some tips on how to safely handle eggs at Easter--and all through the year.

1. Keep fresh eggs refrigerated until it's time to cook them. Eggs are a potentially hazardous food, in the same category as meat, poultry, fish, and milk. In other words, they are capable of supporting the rapid and progressive growth of disease-causing bacteria like Salmonella.

2. To hard cook eggs, simmer them in 185-190 F water. Cool them in cold water or by air. Air-cooled hard boiled eggs are considered to be no longer potentially hazardous food. Strictly speaking, you don't have to refrigerate them to keep them safe for consumption. However, the American Egg Board (AEB) recommends you refrigerate all hard cooked eggs, just to be on the safe side.

3. Whatever the style of preparation, eggs should always be cooked well. The Food and Drug Administration recommends cooking eggs until both the yolk and the white are firm, not runny. In this way, any Salmonella or other harmful bacteria that may be in the eggs will be destroyed.

4. Do not handle eggs excessively, and wash your hands thoroughly when you do handle them, whether in cooking, cooling, dyeing or hiding. The shell of an egg is very porous and will permit bacteria to penetrate. Most commercial egg producers lightly coat their eggs with a thin spray coating a mineral oil to close the pores against contamination. Cooking the egg in the shell, however, removes that barrier so that your hard cooked eggs are again prone to contamination unless you protect them by proper handling.

5. The AEB recommends extreme care in choosing hiding places for Easter eggs. Make sure to avoid areas where the eggs might come into contact with pets, wild animals, birds, reptiles, insects or lawn chemicals. Egg suppliers offer pre-cooked Easter eggs, decorated or plain, that are resin-coated for extra protection against contamination. The resin coating also doubles the eggs' shelf life so that they will keep for two weeks instead of just one.

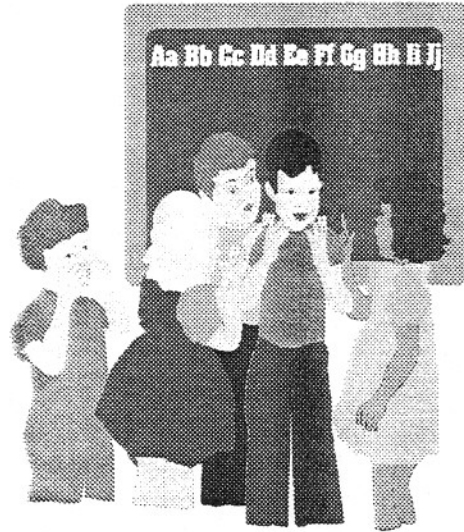
AEB guidelines for Easter eggs include the following:

If you won't be coloring your eggs right after cooking them, store them in their cartons in the refrigerator. Refrigerate them again after they've been hidden and found.

Don't eat cracked eggs or eggs that have been out of refrigeration for more than 2 hours.

If you plan to use hard-cooked eggs as a centerpiece or other decoration, cook extra eggs for eating and discard the eggs that have been left out for many hours or days as a decoration.

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS



By: Ardith B. Soprano
Scholarships Director

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE:

The Scholarship Program is gearing up for the next funding cycle. Summer applications will be mailed out no later than March 29, 1996. If you aren't currently attending school and would like to be on the Scholarship mailing list, you can contact Ardith Soprano at (318) 923-7000. An application packet will be mailed out to you upon request. I recommend that you begin the application process as soon as possible. Remember, the application deadline is May 1, 1996.

Our current students and those returning to the Scholarship Program are reminded that they are required to provide copies of their grades for review prior to the issuance of Summer Awards. Each applicant will be dealt with on an individual basis to insure program compliance. Those applicants who are new to the program will be required to provide documentation of High School graduation or GED Certification as well as other records as required by the program guidelines.

COMMUNITY PAY BACK SERVICE PROGRAM

There will be an opportunity to make pay back service hours on Saturday April 20, 1996. On this day, team leaders will be needed to assist with the Community Trash Bash that is being sponsored by the Human Services Department. If you are able to participate, please call MIKE at (318) 923-7000. This is a worthy project which has been approved as a Community Pay Back Service activity. You are urged to participate so that your involvement can be an incentive for others to join in.

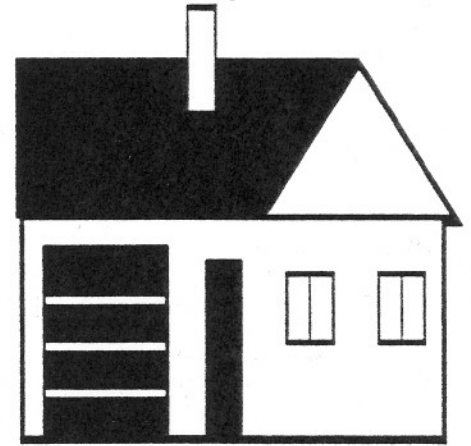
SPECIAL PROGRAM

The Scholarship Participants will be hosting a Community Program to present their Community Pay Back Service Projects. The entire Tribe is invited to attend.

Plans are to hold this program in conjunction with the Tribal Elections in June. The location and times will be announced in the future. Please keep us in mind for election day and make plans to come out to see what our students have been doing. Remember, this program is for all Tribal members. Please encourage your children to attend. We are hoping that this program will help each Tribal member to realize that educational opportunities are accessible and that our Tribal Government is dedicated to assisting our Tribal members in their efforts to realize their goals.

HOUSING NEWS

by: Marilyn Burgess



NOFA FOR NEW HOMES

We should soon be receiving the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for new Mutual Help Homes. As soon as we receive the Notice, we will be putting together an application and hopefully will receive funding to construct more homes. The more applications we have, the better chance we will have to receive funding. If you or someone you know is interested in a home, please call me or come by the office. Remember, we are always accepting applications and if you are eligible you will be placed on our Waiting List. All eligible applications are placed on the Waiting List in order of date and time and not by the date that it is approved by the Board of Commissioners.

HOUSE PAYMENTS

Your house payment should be your first priority when figuring your monthly bills. After all, you won't need utilities or much of anything else if you were to lose your home due to non-payment. Please be on time when paying so that your credit is protected and our future funding is not jeopardized.

RECERTIFICATIONS

It's that time of year again to start recertifications for 1996. I will be sending you a letter for you to come into the office to complete your annual recertification. If you have any changes in income or family composition, please make sure that this office is notified. Thank you for your cooperation.

INSURANCE FOR HOMEOWNERS

I am happy to announce that Amerind Financial Services, Inc. is now providing coverage for Indian Housing Authority tenants who wish to cover their personal property. One of the optional coverage that is available to you at an additional cost would be coverage for outbuildings, sheds, barns and detached garages. If any tenant is interested in obtaining this coverage, please come by the office to pick up an application. If you should choose to purchase this insurance, you will be dealing directly with Amerind and not with this office. The application form includes phone numbers, should you have any questions or need additional information. You will also receive a business card with information on our Marketing Representative.

LET'S BRAG

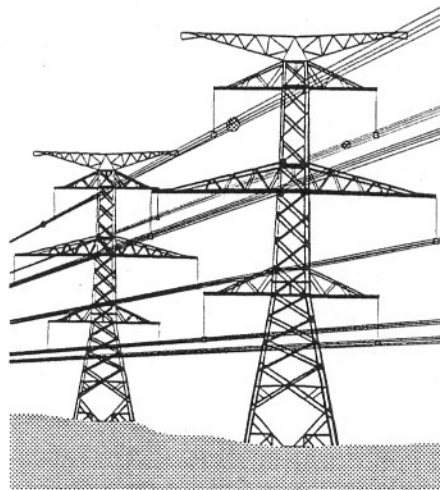
The Housing Authority is proud of our residents and our homes. If you have done work to your home or have just cared for it with tender loving care, we would like to Thank You and say "Keep up the Good Work".

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HIP)

The first of our HIP projects is now under construction. HIP monies are available; however, there is certain criteria that you must meet to be eligible. If you are interested and would like to know if you are eligible, please call me at 923-9125 or come by the office to pick up an application.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

By: Tony Darden, Public Works Director



PARK RESTROOMS

I am sure everyone has noticed that we have completed construction on the park restrooms. The old restrooms were in dire need of repair and also needed to be handicap accessible. Please try to help us keep them in the good and clean condition that they are in now.

ROADS

Our Maintenance Crew has just completed the patching of the potholes in our existing roads. We hope that we did not miss any; however, if you find a hole that we have missed, please feel free to contact me so that we can take care of it.

TRADING POST

I am proud to say that the parking lot at the Trading Post has recently been resurfaced to help accommodate our store patrons. The new parking lot has really given the Trading Post a new look.

Reminder!!!

If you have any waste oil to dispose of, Please bring it by the shop when Patrick is there and he will assist you with it.

I would also like to remind everyone the areas that the Public Works Department is in charge of:

Facilities Maintenance - Tribal buildings, maintenance and upkeep, park and grounds maintenance, Tribal equipment maintenance.

Land Management - Development, Lot Use Agreements, Lot Leasing, Care and Upkeep, Surveying and Mapping

Roads - Roadside Maintenance, Drainage and Development

Sewer Operations - Collection lines, Plant Operation and Maintenance, Permit & Discharge compliance, New Construction.

Utility Service - Gas, water, electricity, phone lines, rights-of-way.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

You can reach our department at 923-9125 or in case of an emergency after hours, please call 828-6708.

Children & Air Bags

What's the Problem?

- ▶ Most new cars have air bags for front-seat passengers. When used with lap/shoulder belts, air bags work very well to protect older children and adults who ride facing the front of the car.
- ▶ *Air bags do not work with rear-facing child seats* (those used with infants).
- ▶ Airbags could seriously injure or even kill an *unbuckled child or adult* who is sitting too close to the air bag or who is thrown toward the dash during emergency braking.
- ▶ In a crash, the air bag inflates very quickly. It could hit anything close to the dashboard with enough force to cause severe injuries or even death. Because the back of a rear-facing child seat sits very close to the dashboard, the seat could be struck with enough force to cause serious, or even fatal injuries to a baby.
- ▶ Even older children (who have outgrown child seats) are at risk from a deploying air bag, if they are not *properly* restrained with a lap/shoulder belt.

What Should I Do?

- ▶ The *rear seat* is the safest place for children of any age to ride.
- ▶ An infant in a *rear-facing* child seat must ride in the back seat if your vehicle has a passenger side air bag (babies under 1 year and 20 pounds should always ride in a rear-facing seat).
- ▶ Make sure that everyone in the front seat is properly *buckled up* and seated as far back from the air bags as is reasonably possible.
- ▶ Make sure that all young children are properly secured in a child safety seat and older children by a lap/shoulder belt. Know how to properly install your child seat in the vehicle. Read both the owner's manual for the vehicle and the instructions for your child safety seat.

Children &

AIR BAGS

It'S AS EASY AS...

1 - 2 - 3

1

Never put a rear-facing child seat (those used with infants) in the front seat of a car with an air bag.

2

Make sure all children are buckled up no matter where they sit. Unbuckled children can be hurt or killed by an air bag!!!

3

The rear seat is the safest place for children of any age to ride.

Human Services Department

April is national child abuse prevention month. I have found some statistics that point out the reason why we need child abuse prevention every month, not just one month a year.

Every Day in America

3	children die from abuse or neglect
6	children commit suicide
13	children are homicide victims
15	children are killed by firearms
95	babies die
518	babies are born to mothers who had late or no prenatal care
790	babies are born at low birthweight
1,407	babies are born to teen mothers
2,660	babies are born into poverty
2,833	children drop out of school
3,398	babies are born to unmarried mothers
6,042	children are arrested
8,493	children are reported abused or neglected

Moments in America for Children

Every 9 seconds	a child drops out of school
Every 10 seconds	a child is reported abused or neglected
Every 14 seconds	a child is arrested
Every 25 seconds	a baby is born to an unmarried mother
Every 32 seconds	a baby is born into poverty
Every 1 minute	a baby is born to a teen mother
Every 2 minutes	a baby is born at low birthweight
Every 3 minutes	a baby is born to a mother who received late or no prenatal care
Every 15 minutes	a baby dies
Every 2 hours	a child is killed by firearms
Every 4 hours	a child commits suicide
Every 5 hours	a child dies from abuse or neglect

How America Stands

Among industrialized countries, the United States ranks:

1st	in military technology	7th	in science achievement of 13 year olds among 15 nations
1st	in military exports	12th	in mathematics achievement of 13 year olds among 15 nations
1st	in Gross Domestic Product	18th	in the gap between rich and poor children
1st	in the number of millionaires and billionaires	16th	in living standards among our poorest one-fifth of children
1st	in health technology	18th	in infant mortality
1st	in defense expenditures	19th	in low-birthweight rates

**Pageant Entry Form For Miss Chitimacha Nation and
Miss Junior Chitimacha Nation
Deadline April 30,1996**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

Educational Background: 1.) Please identify the school you currently attend or if not currently in school, the last school attended. 2.) High school graduation date. 3.) Current or last overall grade average.

Extra Curricular Activities and Hobbies:

DETACH THIS SHEET AT STAPLE

Return to:

Chitimacha Cultural and Historical Research and Development Department located at the Senior-Youth Center (318-923-4395 or 318-923-9923).

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

PRINCIPAL

Position Description:

Responsible for the overall administration of the Chitimacha Day School operations, under the direct supervision of the Education Administrator and in compliance with School Board and Tribal Council policies and procedures. Reports as required to the Chitimacha School Board on all school operations and functions as prescribed by authorized action of the Chitimacha Tribal Council.

Qualifications:

Valid Type A Louisiana teaching certificate, including K - 8 Principalship Certification. Three years of successful teaching experience during the five year period immediately preceding appointment to the administratorship. Must have had graduate training in elementary school administration and elementary school supervision. Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution, including twelve semester hours of professional education at the graduate level.

***PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO QUALIFIED NATIVE AMERICANS**

TO APPLY: Submit resume to the Personnel Officer before the close of business, (5:00 p.m.), Thursday, April 4, 1996. Resumes may be submitted to the Multi-Purpose building or mailed to the address below.

**"Principal"
Personnel Officer
Chitimacha Tribe
P.O. Box 661
Charenton, LA 70523**

An article that appeared in a Dear Abby column sums up the best way to prevent child abuse. Following is the poem:

TODAY

By Henry Matthew Ward

When I got mad and hit my child "For his own good," I reconciled,
And then, I realized my plight.... Today, I taught my child to fight.
When interrupted by the phone, I said, "Tell them I'm not at home."
And then I thought, and had to sigh.... Today, I taught my child to lie.
I told the tax man what I made, Forgetting cash that I was paid;
And then I blushed at this sad feat.... Today, I taught my child to cheat.

I smugly copied a cassette, to keep me free of one more debt.
But now the bells of shame must peal.... Today, I taught my child to steal.
Today, I cursed another race. Oh God, protect what I debase,
For now, I fear it is too late.... Today, I taught my child to hate.

By my example, children learn - That I must lead in life's sojourn
In such a way that they are led - By what is done, not what is said.
Today, I gave my child his due - By praises for him instead of rue...
And now I have begun my guide: Today, I gave my child his pride.

I now have reconciled and paid - to IRS on all I made.
And now I know that this dear youth - Today has learned from me, of truth.
The alms I give are not for show - And yet, this child must surely know
That charity is worth the price.... Today, he saw my sacrifice.

I clasp within a warm embrace - My neighbor of another race
The great commandment from above.... Today, I taught my child to love.
Someday, my child must face alone - This world of fearsome undertone,
But I have blazed a sure pathway.... Today, I taught my child...to pray.

Prevention News

Red Ribbon Week

I would like to take this opportunity to inform all of the Tribal members that the St. Mary Parish Red Ribbon Week Celebration was honored by Louisiana Takes a Stand as the best Red Ribbon Week in the State. This award is a great honor for St. Mary Parish and the Chitimacha Tribe. During the 1995 Campaign, the Tribe participated in all of the events that occurred during Red Ribbon Week. Highlights of some of the events from the 1995 Campaign.

1. The Awareness Rally that was held at Walmart in Franklin. This rally was held to raise the awareness of the problems that drugs and alcohol can cause to school children. The Chitimacha Dancers displayed their talents by performing several traditional dances. The rally was the largest to date and also had area high school bands, local dance groups, and local celebrities.
2. At the school, the children and faculty gave their full support to a successful program. On wear red day, the school was a sea of red as everyone tried to wear as many red items as possible. The school was decorated in banners and slogans that were created by the classes and displayed drug and alcohol free statements. The highlight for the children was a drug dog presentation that allowed the children to see exactly how the highly trained dogs work and are able to find illegal drugs.

Keep America Beautiful Month

The month of April is Keep America Beautiful Month. To help celebrate and promote Keeping America Beautiful we will conduct a Trash Bash on April 20, 1996. Several tribal clubs including the Chitimacha Dancers, the Junior Police, and the 4-H club will conduct a cleanup of the Reservation. We are asking that the residents of the reservation help with this trash bash by cleaning up their yards and cutting and trimming their grass. If anyone is interested in participating please contact the Human Services Department.

MEDIA CENTER

The computers are up and running; and we have even cruised the "net." There are a few bugs to be adjusted with the internet, but we have been receiving assistance from the ENAN office at the University of New Mexico and expect everything to be running smoothly very soon. In the meantime, the Media Center is operational with the computers and a variety of electronic materials available for your use - ranging from reference materials, word processor and spread sheet, to national business directory, planners and presentation programs.

Our OPEN HOUSE is scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 1996, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please make every effort to visit your new Media Center and take advantage of what will be offered, such as beginner classes on the use of computers and the internet. Watch for future announcements concerning these classes.

**PARENT RESOURCE
CENTER**

In conjunction with the Media Center's Open House, we will be also be opening the new **PARENT RESOURCE CENTER**. This was previously

known as the "teacher's lounge." In this area, a multitude of pamphlets, books, and videos will be available for parents on such topics as: "What to do if your child is having problems in school," "How to work with your child's teacher," "Help your child develop an," I can do it attitude." Please come for **"OPEN HOUSE"** and take a look at what's available. Also, please come by anytime during school hours, have coffee or something to drink and sit and look through the materials.

**CHAIRMAN
(Continued from Page 1)**

ATTEMPTED SCAM

As you probably already heard, two people were arrested for attempting to scam our casino. The newspapers and TV had coverage of the arrest, but to my knowledge, the positive facts were not told.

The newspapers and TV had coverage of the arrest, but to my knowledge, the positive facts were not told.

Nearly nine months ago, a new dealer who had been trained in our school and had been on the table for about six weeks, opened a new deck of cards and spotted some hair-line marks. The cards were then checked and found that the other decks in that carton

were marked also. They were taken out immediately and an on-going investigation began that ended March 26 with the arrest of two people. This is a fine example of the quality of training our management has provided. I would like to thank the Casino management, the dealer, the Gaming Commission, as well as the Louisiana State Police and the Tribal Police for a job well done in protecting our assets.

SPECIAL SESSION

The Louisiana legislative special session began on Sunday, March 24th and on that same day, the House unanimously voted to allow bills to be put in the hopper to abolish gambling in the State. I didn't hear of anything from the Senate, but this is going to be a very interesting session since there are a lot of issues they are trying to resolve in twenty seven days. We will be keeping a close watch on this session.

I'd like to wish a happy and safe Easter holiday season to all of our Tribal Staff and to all the members of the Tribe and their families.

UNTIL NEXT MONTH!!!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASED MARCH 26, 1996

Contact: Missy Crowe or Lisa Montelongo (704) 497-5203
Tom Goldtooth (218) 751-4967
Jackie Warledo (918) 743-6530

**EASTERN CHEROKEE DEFENSE LEAGUE TO HOST 7TH ANNUAL PROTECTING MOTHER EARTH CONFERENCE - TO
FEATURE THE NEGATIVE IMPACT AND DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES OF TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE POISONING
OF NATIVE AMERICANS.**

Cherokee, NC --- This year's Indigenous Environmental Network's Protecting Mother Earth conference will have a distinct and significant meaning for some of the hosts of the conference who were recently discriminated against at a Shoney's restaurant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana while attending a national conference on the threats that toxic chemicals like dioxin have on health and the environment. Members from the Eastern Cherokee Defense League received national media attention when they led a protest march of 250 of the nearly 6000 participants of the Third Citizens Dioxin Conference against the discriminatory practices of the Shoney's business.

The march and the dioxin conference brought to the surface the need for broader understanding of multi-racial and multi-cultural education. Members of ECDL found that environmental racism is directly associated with racism in general; where people are discriminated against simply because they are people of color or poor.

The ECDL hopes to address these environmental injustices at the 7th annual IEN Protecting Mother Earth conference slated for June 13 - 16, 1996 in Cherokee, North Carolina. The conference will be held within the reservation boundaries of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

The ECDL reports that the Eastern Band of Cherokee People are faced with a long history of ecological destruction as a result of the paper pulp and paper production, logging, tourism and other industrial impacts. The conference theme, "Our Rivers Are Life," relates to these developments which have resulted in diminished fish species and poorer water quality. The impacts of possible dioxin contamination from local pulp and paper industries are serious concerns of ECDL. "Since our attendance at the dioxin conference, we have learned things that call us to question the level of contamination that the local pulp and paper industry is putting into our Smoky Mountains. This is an issue that will be addressed within the June conference here at Cherokee," said Missy Crowe, ECDL member and IEN conference staff member.

"As reports and evidence emerge from the scientific and health communities, it becomes clear that there is a connection between the environment and our health. Much of the evidence points to endocrine disruptors resulting in irreparable damage to the future generations," said Jackie Warledo, chairwoman of the conference planning committee. "Dioxin is a major player in this," Warledo added, who also is a staff person of the Greenpeace Native Toxic Lands Campaign.

An article in the August 1995 edition of *The Circle*, a native newspaper published in Minneapolis, revealed alarming statistics. The article revealed, "In the US, more Native women die of cervical cancer than all other women combined. Visual impairments occur three to four times more frequently among American Indians than in the general population. Indian children experience problems at epidemic rates."

The conference organizers expect approximately 1,200 people from over a hundred Indigenous nations and numerous grassroots communities. Workshops and plenaries will be focusing on environmental issues, indigenous traditional ecological knowledge, community development and community-based organizing strategies.

The IEN is an alliance of indigenous community-based people whose mission is to strengthen, maintain, protect and respect the traditional teachings, lifestyles and spiritual interdependence to the sacredness of Mother Earth and traditional natural laws.

Camping facilities and all meals will be provided to registered participants and their families. Day care will be provided with children and youth environmental educational activities planned. The Circle of Indigenous Youth will be planning youth activities and workshops throughout the conference.

ANNOUNCEMENT

1996 MISS CHITIMACHA NATION AND MISS JUNIOR CHITIMACHA NATION PAGEANT

**Sunday, June 9, 1996
at
Community Appreciation Day**

A pageant will be held in order to choose two female role models to represent the Tribe at various Chitimacha and intertribal events and functions.

RULES

- Must be a member of the Chitimacha Tribe
- Miss Chitimacha Nation contestants must be 17-21 years of age
- Miss Junior Chitimacha Nation must be 14-16 years of age
- Must be single, never married with no children
- Must be in traditional Chitimacha regalia/ dress
- Must attend two orientation sessions about the pageant, their role and responsibilities

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Chitimacha traditional regalia/ dress
- Knowledge of tribal history, traditional values, principles, customs, and traditions
- Some knowledge about the history of Indian peoples in this country and issues affecting Indian people past and present
- Answers to personal view questions
- Poise and presentation
- School academic standing
- Extra curricular activities and hobbies
- Ability to promote Indian America and reflect goodwill

The Chitimacha Cultural and Historical Research and Development Department will assist contestant preparation. This will be a good learning experience for all those who participate. We extend a warm, enthusiastic invitation and welcome.

SAMPLE FORM

**Pageant Entry Form For Miss Chitimacha Nation and
Miss Junior Chitimacha Nation
Deadline April 30,1996**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Age: _____

Educational Background: 1.) Please identify the school you currently attend or if not currently in school, the last school attended. 2.) High school graduation date. 3.) Current or last overall grade average.

Extra Curricular Activities and Hobbies:

Return this form to:

Chitimacha Cultural and Historical Research and Development Department located at the Senior- Youth
Center (318-923-4395 or 318-923-9923)

CHITIMACHA TRIBAL SCHOOL
DAILY MENU SCHEDULE
April 1996

MONDAY April 1, 1996 Breakfast Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk Lunch Spaghetti, Sweet Peas, Fruit, Roll & Milk	TUESDAY April 2, 1996 Breakfast Doughnut, Ham, Juice & Milk Lunch Field Peas w/Rice, Fruit, Roll & Milk	WEDNESDAY April 3, 1996 Breakfast Cereal, Toast Sticks, Juice & Milk Lunch Crawfish Fetticine, Lettuce Salad, Fruit, Cornbread & Milk	THURSDAY April 4, 1996 Breakfast Cheese, Toast, Juice & Milk Lunch Pizza, Salad, Fruit & Milk	FRIDAY April 5, 1996 OFF EASTER HOLIDAYS
MONDAY April 8, 1996 OFF	TUESDAY April 9, 1996 OFF	WEDNESDAY April 10, 1996 OFF	THURSDAY April 11, 1996 OFF	FRIDAY April 12, 1996 OFF
MONDAY April 15, 1996 Breakfast Cereal, Toast, Juice & Milk Lunch Red Beans w/Rice, Sausage, Salad, Fruit, Cornbread & Milk	TUESDAY April 16, 1996 Breakfast Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk Lunch Hamburger, Chips or French Fries, Lettuce/Tomato, Fruit & Milk	WEDNESDAY April 17, 1996 Breakfast English Muffin, Canadian Bacon, Juice & Milk Lunch Chicken Tenders, Creamed Potatoes, Sweet Peas, Fruit & Milk	THURSDAY April 18, 1996 Breakfast Pancakes, Sausage Links, Juice & Milk Lunch Tacos w/Cheese, Salad, Corn, Fruit, Cornbread & Milk	FRIDAY April 19, 1996 Breakfast Danish, Ham, Juice & Milk Lunch Pork Chop, Spaghetti w/Cheese, Salad, Fruit, Roll & Milk
MONDAY April 22, 1996 Breakfast Grilled Cheese, Juice & Milk Lunch Baked Chicken, Rice Dressing, Cole Slaw, Fruit & Milk	TUESDAY April 23, 1996 Breakfast Eggs, Bacon, Juice & Milk Lunch Chili Fritos, Corn, Salad, Fruit, Cornbread, & Milk	WEDNESDAY April 24, 1996 Breakfast Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk Lunch Pizza, Salad, Fruit, Cookie-Cake, & Milk	THURSDAY April 25, 1996 Breakfast Fried Bread, Ham, Juice & Milk Lunch Lasagna, Salad, Fruit, Roll & Milk	FRIDAY April 26, 1996 Breakfast Breakfast Pizza, Juice & Milk Lunch Tuna Sandwich, Casserole, Salad, Fruit & Milk
MONDAY April 29, 1996 Breakfast Bagel, Turkey Ham, Juice & Milk Lunch Hamburger, French Fries, Salad, Fruit & Milk	TUESDAY April 30, 1996 Breakfast Grits, Sausage Links, Juice & Milk Lunch White Beans & Rice, Roast, Salad, Fruit & Milk	WEDNESDAY May 1, 1996 Breakfast Cinnamon Bun, Ham, Juice & Milk Lunch Pork Chops, Buttered Early Potatoes, Salad, Fruit & Milk	THURSDAY May 2, 1996 Breakfast Cereal, Toast, Juice & Milk Lunch Hot Dogs, Chips, Salad, Fruit & Milk	FRIDAY May 3, 1996 Breakfast Biscuit, Sausage, Juice & Milk Lunch Fried Fish, White Beans w/Rice, Salad, Fruit & Milk

May everyone have a blessed and safe Easter Season!!!

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Call Debbie @318 923-4973 to place an Ad

There are vacancies open on the Election Board for anyone who is interested!!! To be considered for Election Board Membership, call Cathy @ 923-4973 before 3PM April 4, 1996.

EVERYONE INVITED

**Older Teens (15 and up) &
Adult Beadwork Classes**

Every Monday Night between 7 & 9 PM

at

Senior/Youth Center

Sponsored by the Cultural and Historic
Research Development Department

For Information call 923-4395 or 923-9923

*Happy Anniversary
10 Years
Ted & Rhonda*



April 11, 1996



Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 661
Charenton LA 70523
